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Name: Examiner Sam Chuan C. Yao
Group Art Unit 1733

Company: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax: 703-305-7115

Date: May 21, 2002

From: Tracy L. Anderson on behalf of Thomas C. Hughes
212-908-6467

Subject: Attorney Docket No. : 22750/350
U.S. Serial No. 08/900,254, filed July 25, 1997

Pages: 8 including cover sheet

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Examiner Yao:

Comments:

In accordance with your request, enclosed please find a Preliminary Amendment for submission in the above-referenced patent application.

In addition, please note that we are also filing today, via first class mail, a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 and 5 references. Due to the size of the submission, we are forwarding these documents via first class mail. However, for your information, we are enclosing a copy of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement transmittal and Form PTO-1449 as filed.

If you have any questions, or require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

Tracy L. Anderson
Patent Paralegal
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One Broadway
New York, NY 10004
212-908-6467

Docket No. 22750/350

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): PFEUFFER

Serial No.: 08/900,254

Filing Date: July 25, 1997

For: FILTER MATERIAL, METHOD OF
ITS MANUFACTURE, AND
APPARATUS FOR
MANUFACTURING A FILTER
MATERIAL

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Yao, S.

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Address to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via
facsimile no. 703-202-4444 to Examiner S. Yao, Group Art Unit
1733 on

Date: May 21, 2002

Reg. No 42,674

Signature:

Thomas C. Hughes

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to issuing a first Office Action in the above-referenced CPA application, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the remarks below.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

F15067 (Amended) A method for manufacturing a pleated filter material from a thermally bonded non-woven fabric, comprising:

forming a single fibrous web from fully drawn and undrawn synthetic fibers;
calendering the single fibrous web in a single calendering step, wherein during the single calendering step, the undrawn fibers in the single fibrous web are bonded in a tension-free manner between profiled calender rolls to form the non-woven fabric, without inhomogeneities over the cross-section of the non-woven fabric and without the use of flat bonding, and wherein during the single